

Att: Bjarne Håkon Hanssen
Dear Sir,

Since Norway is a country valued for its high respect to human rights, with surprise I have been informed that the Norwegian government, Afghan government and UNHCR, have recently signed an agreement to send back Afghanistan refugees, and the Norwegian government declared that if Afghan refugees do not return to their country voluntarily then you will deport them by direct flight.

It is quite well known that Afghanistan does not have a political stability, or an established human and civil rights respect, e.g. respect for the freedom of thought, for political or religious diversity, or for the freedom of women. It is clear that many people are threatened with persecution there.

Afghanistan is not a safe country, since there is an ongoing war countrywide and every day many people lose their lives. After the recent events and the violence prevailing in Kabul, many international organizations have reduced their activities in the country. It is not only the attacks to Action Aid members, by continuous reports that confirm the insecurity and the deterioration of the human conditions within Afghanistan. The German Caritas in a press conference proposed to close their offices in Kabul and asked European governments to stop deporting refugees from Europe to Afghanistan.

A very logical question comes naturally from the mouth of refugees "If the situation in Norway was like Afghanistan, would you then call it a country of peace, democracy and security? "

Therefore, as a person who respects life, I request the Norwegian government to stop the project for deportation of Afghan refugees, supply them with residence permits and allow them to live safely and with dignity in your highly respected country.

Yours sincerely,

Taliesin Nasimi,
VOICE Refugee Forum

Please see also the VOICE Of Afghani Refugees in England statement made to UN; Afghanistan and British Governments earlier this year:
http://uo.dczn.net/index.php/Statement_from_the_Voice_of_Afghani_Refugees_in_England

<http://uo.dczn.net/index.php/Afghanistan>